

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 04427 231418Z

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SUBJECT: 30TH UNGA--GENERAL DEBAT SPEECH BY THE SECRETARY
OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OF CANADA, ALLAN
MACEACHEN

1. SUMMARY--STRESSING THE IMPORTANT ROLE THE UN CAN
PLAY IN RESOLVING GLOBAL PROBLEMS, CANADIAN SECRETARY
OF STATE MACEACHEN DISCUSSED THE REFORM OF THE INTER-
NATIONAL ECONOMIC SYSTEM INITIATED BY THE 7TH SPECIAL
SESSION, THE LAW OF THE SEA, DISARMAMENT AND PREACE
KEEPING, AND MANAGEMENT OF UN AFFAIRS. HE CALLED ON
MEMBERS TO COMMIT THEMSELVES TO IMPLEMENTING THE DECISIONS
OF THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION, DECLARING CANADA'S RESOLVE
TO PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN UN STRUCTURAL REFORM.MACEACHEN
STRESSED THE URGENCY CANADA PLACED ON ACHIEVING AN
EQUITABLE INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT GOVERNING THE SEAS,
BUT CAUTIONED THAT CANADA "CANNOT BE EXPECTED TO WAIT
INDEFINITELY FOR AGREEMENT." HE NOTED THE PROGRESS ACHIEVED
THROUGH SALT AND CSCE, BUT CALLED FOR FURTHER EFFORTS
TO REDUCE NUCLEAR AND CONVENTIONAL ARMAMENTS, TO END
NUCLEAR WEAPONS TESTING, AND TO PROMOTE COOPERATION IN
THE PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY WITHOUT PROLIFERATION
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PAGE 02 USUN N 04427 231418Z

OF WEAPONS. WELCOMING THE SINAI AGREEMENT, PARTICULARLY
SECRETARY KISSINGER'S "TIRELESS EFFORTS," AS THE "FIRST

STAGE" TOWARD A COMPREHENSIVE PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST, MACEACHEN EMPHASIZED THAT THE UN PEACEKEEPING FORCE HAD CREATED THE BASIS " FOR A SEARCH, AT THE POLITICAL LEVEL, FOR A SOLUTION TO THE MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM." IN CONCLUDING, HE URGED MEMBERS NOT TO INTRODUCE " UNRELATED POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS" INTO THE WORK OF THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES CHARGED WITH IMPLEMENTING THE DECISIONS OF THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION.
END SUMMARY.

2. NOTING THE "HEADWAY" MADE IN THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION TOWARD REDUCING GLOBAL ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DISPARITIES, MACEACHEN CALLED ON MEMBERS TO COMMIT THEMSELVES TO IMPLEMENTING THOSE DECISIONS IN AN URGENT AND COOPERATIVE MANNER. HE DECLARED CANADA'S RESOLVE TO PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED TO IMPROVE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE UN IN THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL FIELDS, AND COMMENDED TO THAT COMMITTEE'S ATTENTION THE REPORT OF EXPERTS ("A NEW UNITED NATIONS STRUCTURE FOR GLOBAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION") AND A COMMONWEALTH GROUP OF EXPERTS REPORT ("TOWARDS A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER").

3. STRESSING THE IMPORTANCE OF A NEW LAW OF THE SEA FOR THE CREATION OF AN EQUITABLE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC SYSTEM, MACEACHEN HIGHLIGHTED THE CENTRAL ROLE THE UN COULD PLAY IN DEVELOPING NEW INTERNATIONAL LAW AND PLEDGED CANADA TO WORK URGENTLY FOR "AGREEMENT ON A VIABLE AND BALANCED GLOBAL REGIME FOR THE SEAS." HE CAUTIONED, HOWEVER, THAT CANADA ALSO HAD IMPORTANT NATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES TO CANADIAN COSTAL COMMUNITIES AND THUS "LIKE MANY OTHER GOVERNMENTS, CANNOT BE EXPECTED TO WAIT INDEFINITELY FOR AGREEMENT." HE THUS EXHORTED STATES TO "ACT QUICKLY AND IN CONCERT," EXPLAINING THAT "ONLY IF THE MULTILATERAL APPROACH FAILS...WILL MY GOVERNMENT, AND I ASSUME OTHERS, RESORT TO OTHER SOLUTIONS TO PROTECT FUNDAMENTAL NATIONAL INTERESTS."

4. IN THE FIELD OF DISARMAMENT, MACEACHEN NOTED THE
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PAGE 03 USUN N 04427 231418Z

CONTRIBUTION OF THE SALT TALKS TO "PROMOTING A CLIMATE OF STRATEGIC STABILITY AND POLITICAL DETENTE," BUT CALLED ON THE US AND USSR "TO PROCEED WITHOUT DELAY TO ACHIEVING STEPS OF NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT." HE URGED ALL NUCLEAR POWERS TO "RE-EXAMINE THE TECHNICAL AND POLITICAL OBSTACLES TO AN AGREEMENT TO END NUCLEAR WEAPONS TESTING." NOTING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE NPT AS A DEVICE TO CURB THE PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS AS WELL AS TO PROMOTE COOPERATION IN THE PEACEFUL USE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY, MACEACHEN CALLED ON ALL PARTIES TO MEET THEIR TREATY

OBLIGATIONS AND REAFFIRMED THAT CANADA WILL MEET HER OBLIGATIONS TO FACILITATE THE CAREFUL EXCHANGE OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY AND MATERIALS FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES, ESPECIALLY BETWEEN ADVANCED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. FINALLY, IN THE AREA OF CONVENTIONAL ARMS CONTROL AND REDUCTION OF FORCE, MACEACHEN NOTED THE PROGRESS ACHIEVED AT THE CSCE AND THE LEGITIMATE CONSTRAINTS UNDER WHICH THE MAJOR MILITARY POWERS OPERATED. NEVERTHELESS, HE CALLED FOR FURTHER PROGRESS IN THE VIENNA NEGOTIATIONS, AND URGED THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO CONTINUE TO SERVE AS "A SPUR TO ACTION IN THE FIELD OF DISARMAMENT."

5. MACHEACHEN WELCOMED RECENT SUCCESSES IN THE FIELD OF PEACEKEEPING, PARTICULARLY THE SINAI AGREEMENT WHICH HE ATTRIBUTED IN PART TO SECRETARY KISSINGER'S "TIRELESS EFFORTS" AND WHICH HE SAW AS "THE FIRST STAGE IN A SERIES OF INTER-LOCKING NEGOTIATIONS AND AGREEMENTS WHICH WOULD INVOLVE ALL THE PARTIES TO THE DISPUTE AND EMBRACE ALL THE FUNDAMENTAL ISSUES." THE ROLE OF UNEF SINCE 1973, ACCORDING TO MACEACHEN, SHOULD PROVE TO SKEPTICS THAT PEACEKEEPING DOES NOT MERELY PERPETUATE THE STATUS QUO: " UNEF IS DOING THE JOB FOR WHICH IT IS INTENDED, THAT IS, HELPING TO CREATE THE CIRCUMSTANCES FOR A SEARCH, AT THE POLITICAL LEVEL, FOR A SOLUTION TO THE MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM." EFFECTIVE PEACEKEEPING REQUIRED, AS DEMONSTRATED BY THE CASE OF CYPRUS, THE COOPERATION OF THE CONCERNED PARTIES AS WELL AS "THE FULL SUPPORT OF ALL MEMBER STATES INCLUDING PRACTICAL SUPPORT IN THE FORM OF PROMPT PAYMENT OF PEACEKEEPING ASSESSMENTS."

6. MACEACHAN CONCLUDED BY CALLING FOR A CLEAR SEPARATION
UNCLASSIFIED
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PAGE 04 USUN N 04427 231418Z

OF POLITICAL AND TECHNICAL ISSUES IN THE MANAGEMENT OF UN AFFAIRS. HE URGED ALL MEMBERS TO REFRAIN "FROM THE INTRODUCTION OF UNRELATED POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS INTO THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AS WELL AS THE ORGANS THAT HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES FOR IMPLEMENTING THE DECISIONS OF THE SPECIAL SESSION."
MOYNIHAN

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